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The Coordinator
Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
Dec 1991 Issue

ITS ELECTION TIME AGAIN

(K7CR) once a year, on the First Saturday in December, the WWARA meets at what has become known as our Annual Meeting for the election of new officers for the up-comming year. This year the meeting date is December 7th, at the Riverside Inn in Tukwila.

Up for grabs is the position of Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary /Treasurer and 2 of the 4 Board of Directors positions.

In the past the turnout at these meetings has ranged from great to poor. On those poor times we have resorted to "recycling" the same old faces. The WWARA is YOUR Association and you can make a difference. Holding an office in this organization is a great experience, take it from me, I've been doing it for 15 years. I have one more year to go to serve out this term at which point I intend to retire...but you don't have to wait until then. There are five offices to be filled on the 7th....come join us.

Commercial Use of Amateur Spectrum?

K7CR

FCC Private Radio Chief Ralph Haller set off a firestorm in a remarks delivered at the ARRL National Convention in Saginaw, Mich. Mr Haller was quoted as stating that we Amateurs had excess capacity (apparent reference to having a lot of spectrum that we were not using) and that perhaps some commercial use could be found for it. The ARRL's Executive Committee took up this matter at their October 26th meeting and here, from the minutes of this meeting is what they have to say on the subject...

".....The publicity, for which the League was not responsible, appears to have misrepresented the intest of Mr Haller's comments. Informal discussions between FCC staff and ARRL representatives began earlier this year when literal interpretations of Section 97.113 of the FCC Rules called longstanding practices of Amatuer Radio volunteers into question. While no ARRL petition for rulemaking on this subject has been authorized, it was the sense of the Committee that a solution to the problem of overzealous interpretation should continue to be sought without compromising the essence of Amateur Radio as a voluntary NON-COMMERCIAL communication service. The Committee also noted that any proposal for changes to Section 97.113 would be subject to the public notice and comment requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, ensuring an opportunity for adequate participation in the process by the amateur community..."

Some parties have outright accused the ARRL of plotting with the FCC to have Amateur Radio turned into some sort of quasi- commercial service. Apparently what has taken place has been "DISCUSSIONS" about amateur "business""communications. Haller has recently told League officials that he feels there is good reason for increased public service communications by Amateurs would would not adversely affect the service.

The FCC is continually being questioned by Amateurs to determine just what can and cannot be done, the Commission is attempting to respond by clearing up the rules in this area....some examples are communications in conjunction with the Iditerod dog race in Alaska, certain events that have commercial sponsors, races etc.

Continued on Page 2

Whose Repeater Is That Anyway?

Jon Marcinko - W7FHZ

Did you ever stop to think about who owns the repeater you talk on? Probably the guy whose call sign the thing is identified by? Maybe, or maybe not. Now days, there are many repeaters identified by calls that don't reflect the ownership or even control of the repeater. "Fred, did you catch the call on the ID?" "Ya, it was AA7XX!" "Gee, I thought I heard that old Murch died last fall. QRZ, QRZ Can anyone tell me who owns this repeater?" SILENCE!

Fiction? No! This actually happened here in Western Washington and it required a great deal or sorting out before the matter was resolved.

In other situations, partners in a repeater ownership fail for one reason or another to communicate with each other on activities of the repeaters operation and control and find out later that things are not as they once were.

The Association should not be responsible to sort out these kinds of problems when they are associated with the coordination of the repeater. Our only official information regarding ownership and custodial matters on any given repeater is that which is contained in the last supplied repeater update form. This information is used to generate the mailing list for all correspondence including The COORDINATOR and is the source of information supplied to the ARRL for directory publication.

The moral of this story is that it is up to the owner or owners of a repeater to provide and updated repeater data sheet when changes occur keeping in mind that many changes require modification of their coordination. Make sure that the name and address at the bottom of the form indeed indicates the person responsible to speak as or in behalf of the owner on all questions or make all decisions in matters of the repeaters coordination. By all means, appoint someone to be in charge before you die!

FCC TO INCREASE ITS INSPECTIONS

1992 will see the FCC increase the number of inspections of commercial broadcast facilities and with it comes a stern warning. They will be looking at towers. Already in this area the FCC has been out looking at commercial towers with a GPS receiver checking to see of the coordinates on the license are in agreement with the CPS device.

The situation is even more critical when it comes to tower lights and related safety measures. The Commission has made it very clear that in the event they inspect the facility and find a tower violation...EVERY LICENSEE ON THE TOWER WILL BE FINED!!!.

If you operate an Amateur repeater system on a commercial tower, especially one that has marking or lighting requirements, you'd better make sure the tower is in compliance, and kept that way. Remember you cannot delegate this responsibility to another, even though you may be getting the tower space for free. Several Amateur repeater systems around the country have already found out that the new FCC initiative into tower compliance has teeth that bite into Hams with ease.

Amateur Spectrum continued. . .

Look for the FCC to work toward a more possible liberal leaning in these areas that would, in effect, permit more amateur participation in instances where, heretofor, might have been considered by some as being on the edge of being commercial. Anyone who has been involved in public service communications is quite familiar with the problem. Time will tell. In the mean time, don't look for the local two meter repeater to start sounding like Class A CB.

BROADCASTERS CONTINUE TO TALK ABOUT DAB

(K7CR) The Broadcast industry continues to focus on two items...in the Video world its HDTV and in Radio its DAB or Digital Audio Broadcast. Several interesting things have taken place with the latter...

Recent over the air testing of DAB in Canada has yielded some rather surprizing results. Preliminary findings some to indicate that Digital test broadcasts on 1.5 Ghz are comparable to those in use now at 100 MHz. 1.5 Ghz, or L - Band is its known, is one of the possible pieces of spectrum targeted.

The Electronic Industries Association, a trade group made up of makers of consumer electronic equipment, have been huddling recently with proponents of the various DAB systems, behind closed doors to attempt to develope a unified position in the matter.

Several companies are actively researching the possiblity of operating Digital transmissions withing the existing FM band.

Meanwhile the FCC and the White House have apparently decided to seek an S-Band allocation for satellite and complementary land based spectrum for DAB from 2310 to 2360 MHz at the upcomming WARC.

Thus far this search for spectrum for a new radio service appears to not be targeting Amateur Spectrum, but don't close your eyes till you can go out to K-Mart and buy a Digital Audio Broadcast Radio.

WWARA CONTINUES 6 METER BAND PLANNING ACTIVITY.

(K7CR) The WWARA's 6 meter committee continues to work toward the goal of comming up with a consenses on a 6 meter repeater band plan. Todate a number of plans have been submitted to the committee, by the time you read this these submittals will have been mailed out to Frequency Coordinators and other interested parties nationwide requesting they vote for the best of the plans submitted. The goal is to be able to tally the votes and announce same near the end of the year. At this time its not clear just how this matter will go. A lot of apathy still exists when in comes to 6 meters dispite the chance that it will, due to the pressure of the new No-coders, become a very used piece of Amateur real estate.

If you would like more information about this activity or would like to take part, contact the Secretary and she can put you in touch with the Committee member nearest you. A full report on the Committees activities will be heard at the up comming meeting of the WWARA.

MINOR FCC RULE CHANGES ANNOUNCED

(K7CR) In a Report and Order released on October 23rd the Commission revised 97.201 (Auxiliary Station). In their Notice of Proposed Rule Making the Commission proposed to ammend 97.201 to delete the condition that an auxiliary station can be automatically controlled only when it is part of a repeater system. The Commission stated..." Generally, we encourage automatic control wherever the use of devices and procedures for control of an amateur station ensures that compliance with the rules is achieved. The ARRL supports this amendment because it would allow experimentation with new system configurations. We concur and, therefor, are adopting the amendments as proposed..."

What this all means is 97.201, (d) has been revised to read...."An auxiliary station may be automatically controlled"

LOOKING BACK

(K7CR)

The repeater group that I represent at the WWARA is the Channel 1 Repeater Group, operator of the 53.15 6 meter repeater on West Tiger Mountain our group was formed back in 1975. Recently our Secretary/Treasurer, Tim Timblin, K7HF, retired and has moved back to his home state of Wisconsin. Before he left Tim handed me a box containing some 16 years worth of paper he had been saving. Included in this collection was a list of all the fellows that purchased former California Highway Patrol Motorola Motran's. Many of these found their way onto the 6 meter scene, most have just dissapeared. One of the more intesting items in the box is quite a few copies of old WWARA newsletters. I will be in the comming months reprint some of the details of coordination actions from the past. Let me share with you now the names of the Officers of the Association from a news letter dated 10-23- 77...

Chairman	Jon Marcinko, W7FHZ	Still at it!!!
Vice Chair	Len Wikstrom, W7ZZL	Len is now in Alaska
Sec/Tres	Clay Freinwald, K7CR	Who's this guy??
Board	Ken Ray, K7YR	Still at it also
Board	Dave Bachtel, WA7LOR	Where is Dave anyway??
Board	Mike Schone, WA7BAY	
Board	Bob St Andre, WA7NAN	Still there

As you can see from about 14 years ago 3 of the Board then is still serving, currently Ken Rau is actively working with the 6 Meter Committee.

HAM ARRESTED FOR OWNING HAM GEAR !!

(WESTLINK) Eric Dobrowansky, KA2YKC, has been indicted by a New Jersey grand jury on chages of having installed amateur radio gear in his car that has the capability of receiving police dispatch channels. In this case the police channels are adjacent to the two meter band.

Dobrowansky was arrested late last year by the Cranford police while trying to assist that department in its hunt for a jammer of its police radio communications. He was charged with violating New Jersey Statute A2A124-4, having a radio in his vehicle capable of receiving police freqencies. The radio in question was an Icom 901 multi-band remote transceiver that can receive the frequencies of 136 to 174 MHz.

The indictment of Dobrowansky has angered the New Jersey amateur radio community. New Jersey hams are already involved ina major political battle to overturn the 33 year old lay under which KA2YKC was charged. The replacement measure, called the "Mendelsohn Law" after ARRL Hudson Director Steve Mendelsohn, WA2DHF who has been spearheading its passage. The new measure would only make possession of mobile scanners a criminal offense if the device was used in conjunction with the commission of a crime.

NEW EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT

Icom has announced the release of two new hand-helds, the IC-2SRA for 2 meters and the IC-4SRA for UHF. Both of these radios feature something that only recently would have been considered impossible, their receivers feature coverage from 25 to 905 MHz. Just stay out of New Jersey!!....Hy-Gain has a new line of Repeater/Base station antennas. First is the V-2R for 2 meters this rugged radiator will handle 500 watts and winds of 105 MPH. The UHF model, labled the V-4R features a 10 MHz band width and a wind survival rating of 230 MPH.

NO CODE TECH A BIG HIT

(K7CR) Well its happening, we are hearing a lot of new voices on the repeater lately and a lot of them are no-coders. Even on the 53.15 six meter repeater have been heard a couple of new commers, this time Broadcast engineers that have joined the ranks. These fellows, with solid technical background are a welcome addition. Many of us have long felt that the requirement for learning the Morse Code acted as a stumbling block for many to even get interested in obtaining their license. This contention appears to be well founded as the interest in Amateur license classes as well as the number of new licensees is setting all time records. One would think that these new folks would want nothing to do with CW....NOT SO!!! I found myself teaching a no-code Tech license class recently at Renton Technical College (formally RVTI), near the end of the class I asked my students how many of them would be interested in learning the code....to my surprize ALL the hands went up.

Swap and Shop

For Sale:250 Watt GE Mastr II power amplifier UHF Complete with power supply, power distribution panel, and metering panel. Removed from active service. No wires cut complete documentation $150.00

VHF Syntor synthesized Motorola mobile complete with hardware. $125.00

GE Portamobile II VHF, multi frequency 20 Watt portable $100.00

Call Jon W7FHZ

For Sale Yaesu FT680R 6 Meter Radio $250 Call Marc KN7MVO 776-6558

FCC ACCUSES MAGAZINE EDITOR OF PIRATE TRANSMITTING ON H.F.

(ARRL Letter) The editor of MOBILE RADIO TECHNOLOGY has been accused by the FCC of operating a pirate radio station. On October 6 Don Bishop, the editor of the magazine published by Intertech Publishing of Overland, Kansas, was stopped just south of Limon, Colo. after being tracked by FCC monitors across the country.

According to Bob Weller, and engineer at the FCC's Lakewood, Colorado field office, Bishop was first heard at the Commission's Laurel, Maryland monitoring station, on 15.050 MHz USB. He was playing tapes made earlier of another pirate radio station "The Voice of Laryngitis".

The FCC's direction finding net determined that the signal was comming from a moving source - on Interstate 70, westbound. The signal was first encountered around 7:30 AM EST and at 4:30 PM. The Denver office was notified of the situation. They expected the source to cross the Colorado border around 7:30 PM.

According to Weller, the signal disappeared from 15.050 but was found on 7.420 LSB. Weller used the direction finding equuipment in his FCC vehicle to find the source, then contacted the Colorado State Patrol.

CHANGES IN COORDINATION POLICIES

Mark McKibbin WR7V has submitted the following as a change in the current WWARA Coordination Policies

SECTION 17: The WWARA recognizes the ARRL band plans for the following:

A. 10 Meters
B. 6 Meters
C. 220 Mhz
D. 440 Mhz
E. 900 Mhz
F. 1200 Mhz

Change to:
SECTION 17: Reserved

NO NEWS ON CONTENT RELIEF

(Westlink) Packet BBS sysops and owners of open repeaters have been waiting for the FCC to act to relieve them of some of their legal responsibility for automatically retransmitted messages will have to keep on waiting according to Tom Blackwell, N5GAR of Dallas, Texas. Blackwell is one of the authors of RM 7649, a rule making request that asks the FCC to place primary responsibility for the content of relayed traffic on the originating station, and hold the relay stations responsible only on a secondard basis.

A few months ago Blackwell was told by one of his legislators that the FCC would acting on the petition before the end of September, but that was not to be the case. According to sources at the Commission the matter will be combined with several other requests for regulatory relief.

To give you an idea of the speed of the Commission, the Report and Order covering several petitions released on Oct 23rd (see previous article on Auxiliary Stations) concerned RM numbers 7241 through 7244.

Until the FCC makes up its mind either way, packet operators and repeater licensees remain in limbo, not knowing what is legal to retransmit and what is not. According to Blackwell, the harest decision on what to keep from relaying falls to the voice repeater operator and his control stations. The current rules interpretation makes censorship almost mandatory, and in real time.

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association

Dues are $12.00 per Calander Year

Enclosed please find $ _____ for _____ years
Name _____ Call _____
Address _____
City _____ ST _____ Zip _____
Repeater Organization _____ Frq _____

WWARA 14241 NE Woodinville-Duvall Rd #254 Woodinville, Washington 98072

WWARA TECHNICAL DATA FORM

1991

Mail finished data form to

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
14241 NE Woodinville-Duvall Rd, Suite 254
Woodinville WA 98072

Update of system parameters [ ] Request For Coordination [ ]

BAND (MHz) _____ Date: _____

Input Frequency _____ Output Frequency _____ Control Frequency _____

Owners / Sponsors Name _____

Repeater Callsign _____ City Identified with Repeater _____

Geographic Area Served _____

Repeater Transmitter Site Name _____

Site owner _____

NOTE: When site is owned by a commercial or government entity please attach copy of your lease agreement or letter of authorization

Exact location _____

Coordinates: Latitude _____ Longitude _____

Ground elevation at repeater site AMSL (ft.) _____ Height above ground to tip of antenna (ft.) _____

Gain of NON-directional antenna if used (db) _____ Power to antenna (watts) _____

Gain of DIRECTIONAL antenna if used (db) _____ F/B ratio (db) _____

Bearing of DIRECTIONAL antenna (degrees) _____

Types of access and features: Check [X] those that apply below

- [ ] O :Carrier
- [ ] PL :Continuous Tone Coded Squelch (CTCSS) — CTCSS Frequency (Hz) _____
- [ ] T :Dual Tone Multi-Freq-DTMF
- [ ] C :Closed and private repeater
- [ ] A :Autopatch — Area covered _____
- [ ] CA :Closed Autopatch
- [ ] Z :Direct access to law enforcement or 911
- [ ] E :Emergency power
- [ ] L :Linked or crossbanded — TO: _____
- [ ] P :Portable repeater
- [ ] Y :RTTY / Packet

Contact person for this system _____ Call _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Alternate Phone _____

WWARA Board Meeting 10/3/91

The October 3, 1991 Board Meeting was held at Izzy's Pizza Restaurant in Kirkland. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. Introductions were made and a sign in sheet was passed around.

Those present were: Steven Mayes - KA7PMC, Herman Entz - K7PAG, Don Rose - W7JPH, Bill Rourke - W7ERH, Ned Worcester - KB7NFO, Steven Zielke - N7JLF, Paul Quinn - N7LJG, Glen Read - KB7GZ, Joseph Bushnell - WA7BLE, Frank McJunkins - K7RSD, Howard Selmer - N7RTT, Russ Olsen - N7SJV, Peter Dahl - WA7FUS, Mark McKibbin - WR7V, Nancy McKibbin - KB7BJE, Jon Marcinko - W7FHZ, Clay Freinwald - K7CR, Ron Henderson - WA7OEE and Dave Schnuckel - N7PZI.

The Minutes of the 8/3/91 General Meeting were approved as written.

The following treasurers report was read and approved:

Previous Balance	$872.43
Six Meter Donations	337.00
Income from Dues	101.00
Less Riverside Coff	<15.00>
Less 6 Mtr Exp	<320.78>
Less Postage	< 2.00>
Less Coordinator	<131.58>
Less Bank Chgs	< 9.10>
	=======
New Balance	$831.97

Adjacent Area News

IACC- We received a paper copy of the E. Washington data base in the mail from Doug Rider.

ORRC- ORRC had one person present at the regional meeting.

PRARFCA - PRARFCA had 3 representatives in attendance at the regional meeting. Bob Smits supplied Herman a copy of their constitution for review.

Committee Reports

6/10 - No News

2 Meters

The Board approved the following coordinations;

1) Michael Greene was coordinated a co-channel repeater on 144.57/145.17 in Bremerton with a specific requirement that his machine MUST USE a PL tone of 103.5 Hz for BOTH transmitted and received signals.

2) James Keightly was coordinated as the new owner of the 146.26/146.86 repeater in Ilwaco.

3) Gene Colson was coordinated a repeater on 144.67/145.27 as he had completed his testing with no interference complaints.

Herman reported further;

Scott Bogues request of 2/3/91 for a cochannel repeater on 146.76 will be denied due to the potential interference with an existing repeater in Astoria.

Fred Allmans request of 4/15/91 for a cochannel repeater on 145.15 will be denied due to lack of information from Fred.

The Twin Harbors repeater on 146.90 is off the air again awaiting parts. A second request was made of the 146.90 group for a new green sheet.

The cochannel request from Bob Smits on 145.37 was met with disapproval from Gene Kimzey. Bob Smits is questioning the validity of Gene's coverage claims and is planning to do some testing for interference in the Parksville area.

Jon Marcinko's request of 3/13/91 on 147.10 is still in the test mode near Concrete.

220

A request from Howard Smith to be changed to the new custodian for the 224.06 is being held up pending a letter of release from the old custodian, Peter Sikes.

A coordination to Frank Volz was approved as the new owner of 224.86. The old custodian has supplied a letter of release.

WR7V reported that Bill Rourke's W7ERH 224.24 repeater is on the air in Seattle and is working very well.

440

The Board approved the following decoordinations;

448.925/443.925 - Ken Koster

446.450/441.450 - Steve Hazelett

447.500/442.500 - Stan Nelson

The Board approved the following coordinations;

Jerry Keisler - 447.500/442.500 in Sedro Wooley

Frank McJunkins - 448.375/443.375 Move to Green Bank on Whidbey Island

Robert Mizener 449.675/444.675 Move to 3 Sisters Mountain

BEARONS - 448.925/443.925 in Everett at the Boeing Plant

Glen Read - 446.450/441.450 in Seattle on Queen Anne Hill

900/1200

WR7V reported that there are 4 1.2 Ghz repeaters on the air and working.

The Board approved a location coordination change of the 1291 repeater to a location near Brinnon pending test results.

100, 900 Mhz cellular bases are available in Washington DC.

Technical Committee

WR7V contacted Donald Sandstrom regarding his 440 request for a 100Khz wide channel. Mark explained that there was no spectrum available to accommodate his proposal and suggested that he apply for a waiver from the FCC to use 420-430 above Line A or apply for spectrum on 900 or 1200 Mhz.

Packet - No News

Old Business

The 6 Meter Committee will meet after the Board meeting.

The 145.49 Crystal Mountain old Search and Rescue repeater is showing renewed interest by its users. As coordinated it is a cochannel repeater with Canada and is only to be brought up by tone for SAR activities. Ron Henderson was present and he feels he was misrepresented by John Miller. Ron was advised of the coordination status and custodian of record for 145.49. He indicated that he may apply to have the machine recoordinated as a wide area coverage machine. For such a coordination to be possible all cochannel criteria will have to be met.

New Business

It was announced that the FCC is entertaining the use of Amateur Radio for Personal Business communications.

It was suggested that the WWARA use a mathematical program to determine the feasibility of cochannel operation. Such a program would help eliminate the personal emotional rationale from cochannel owners. The Board will look into the cost of purchasing this software.

Mark, WR7V suggested that we remove all references relating to following the ARRL bandplans from our polices and bylaws. The Board was in approval as the WWARA does not follow them in all cases. The next Coordinator will have the suggested changes outlined so that the membership may vote on the issue.

THE WESTERN WASHINGTON AMATEUR RELAY ASSOCIATION
SERVING REPEATER OWNERS AND USERS SINCE 1976

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, 1991

POSITION	NAME	CALL	PHONE
Chairman	Jon Marcinko	W7FHZ	839-7688
Vice Chairman	Herman Entz	K7PAG	857-5946
Secretary/Treas.	Nancy McKibbin	KB7BJE	483-6999
Representative #1	Clay Freinwald	K7CR	939-1414
Representative #2	Bob St Andre	WA7NAN	746-6217
Representative #3	Steve Mayes	KA7PMC	232-1901
Representative #4	Mark McKibbin	WR7V	483-6999

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Technical	Bob St Andre	WA7NAN	746-6217
Membership	Herman Entz	K7PAG	857-5946
FCC Liaison	Gib Gibson	W7JIE	226-4222
Coordinator Editor	Clay Freinwald	K7CR	939-1414
Data Base Mgr	Mark McKibbin	WR7V	483-6999
10 & 6 Meters	Clay Freinwald	K7CR	939-1414
2 Meters	Herman Entz	K7PAG	857-5946
220 MHz	Peter Dahl	WA7FUS	778-3581
440 MHz	Jon Marcinko	W7FHZ	839-7688
900/1200	Mark McKibbin	WR7V	483-6999
Packet Systems	To be assigned		

Please feel free to contact your WWARA officials at any time for additional information about the Association. The COORDINATOR is published 6 times a year and mailed to all parties having a WWARA coordinated system as well as those whom are paid USER members. Dues are $12 per calendar year. The Coordinator is published BIMONTHLY. Address all formal correspondence and requests for coordination to:

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
14241 N.E. Woodinville-Duvall Suite 254
Woodinville, Washington 98072

Western Washington Amateur Relay Association
14241 N.E. Woodinville Duvall Road Ste 254
Woodinville, Washington 98072

SEATTLE WASH. PM NOV 27 1991

29 USA

NAPRA Exp
14919 NE 163 RD
WOODINVILLE, WA 98072

Meeting Notice

The next General Business Meeting will be DECEMBER 7, 1991 at the RIVERSIDE INN in TUKWILLA at 10:00 AM. The Secretary will be available at 9:30 am.